

What is claimed:

1. A hot melt adhesive composition having antimicrobial properties for skin contact applications comprising:

- a. an acrylic polymer; and
- 5 b. an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone dispersed throughout said polymer.

2. The adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said acrylic polymer comprises a mixture of a low molecular weight solid acrylic polymer and a medium molecular weight solid acrylic polymer.

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3. The adhesive composition of claim 2, wherein said low molecular weight acrylic polymer has a molecular weight between about 90,000 and about 120,000 and said medium molecular weight acrylic polymer has a molecular weight between about 140,000 and about 160,000.

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4. The adhesive composition of claim 2, wherein the ratio of low molecular weight polymer to medium molecular weight polymer is about 1 to 4.

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5. The adhesive composition of claim 2, further comprising an effective amount of a tackifier.

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6. The adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein the

concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said polymer composition is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

5 7. The adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said acrylic polymer has a melt temperature between about 275 °F and about 350 °F.

 8. A hot melt adhesive composition having antimicrobial properties comprising:
10 a. an essentially 100% solids acrylic polymer for hot melt application; and
 b. an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone dispersed throughout said acrylic polymer.

15 9. The adhesive composition of claim 8, wherein said acrylic polymer comprises a mixture of a low molecular weight solid acrylic polymer and a medium molecular weight solid acrylic polymer.

20 10. The adhesive composition of claim 9, wherein said low molecular weight acrylic polymer has a molecular weight between about 90,000 and about 120,000 and said medium molecular weight acrylic polymer has a molecular weight between about 140,000 and about 160,000.

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 11. The adhesive composition of claim 10, wherein the

ratio of low molecular weight polymer to medium molecular weight polymer is about 1 to 4.

12. The adhesive composition of claim 8, further comprising an effective amount of a tackifier.

13. The adhesive composition of claim 8, wherein the concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said polymer composition is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

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14. The adhesive composition of claim 8, wherein said acrylic polymer has a melt temperature between about 275 °F and about 350 °F.

15. A surgical drape comprising:
a. a sheet of polymeric substrate;
b. a coating of an adhesive composition overlying said polymeric substrate wherein said adhesive composition is hot melt applied to said substrate and includes an acrylic polymer having an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone dispersed throughout said adhesive composition.

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16. The surgical drape of claim 15 wherein said substrate comprises a sheet of co-polyester.

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17. The surgical drape of claim 15, wherein said acrylic polymer comprises a mixture of a low molecular weight solid acrylic polymer and a medium molecular weight solid acrylic polymer.

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18. The surgical drape of claim 17, wherein the ratio of low molecular weight polymer to medium molecular weight polymer is about 1 to 4.

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19. The surgical drape of claim 15, wherein the concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said polymer composition is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

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20. The surgical drape of claim 15, wherein said acrylic polymer has a melt temperature between about 275 °F and about 350 °F.

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21. The surgical drape of claim 15 further comprising an antimicrobial agent applied to said surgical drape on the side opposite said coating of an adhesive composition.